

It would not be sufficient to find that in the production process Palestinians seem to occupy proletarian places and represent an increase in the size of proletarian locations in the production process that are shared by Jews and Arabs. It is necessary to examine the extent to which these shared locations are internally segmented and by what criteria. For this purpose, we try to identify by what source of capital each population group tends to be employed, and where they are located in relation to ideological-political domination/subordination.

By answering these five questions posed above, we illustrate the formation of a Palestinian working class in Israel. Unless the forces underlying this process are identified, it remains unclear whether what appears to be class formation is, in fact, a structural change and therefore permanent, not temporary.

III. Explanatory Aspects of the Study

A. Theory and Method:

As a study of development and class formation, dialectical materialism is the most appropriate theoretical/methodological frame of analysis. Dialectical materialism is the method which identifies the laws of motion as ones that lay in the unity of materially-contradictory tendencies inherent in the essence of phenomenon, both social and natural.³⁵

From this perspective, development is conceived to be not a linear process, but rather as the successive disclosure of objective (not logical) contradictions. Dialectical materialism, thus, rejects both the notion of linearity and the notion of equilibrium.

Class formation may denote reproduction, expansion, liquidation, or